

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-05 RSC-01 /020 W

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R 080830Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2533

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FOR COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, BTIO, SO, US

SUBJECT: SOMALI PURCHASE OF US COTTON

GINNING EQUIPMENT

1. SOMALI STATE-OWNED COTTON COMPANY SOMALTEX HAS BEEN AWAITING ARRIVAL US ERECTION ENGINEER SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1974, TO SUPERVISE INSTALLATION OF COTTON GINNING EQUIPMENT PURCHASED FROM HARDWICK-ETTER OF SHERMAN, TEXAS. WHEN US ENGINEER BEATY DID ARRIVE ON DEC. 30, HE WAS NOT MET BY SOMALTEX REPS. AT AIRPORT AND CHOSE TO DEPART SOMALIA ON SAME FLIGHT, DESPITE FACT THAT AIRPORT VISA HAD BEEN ARRANGED (SOMALTEX PRESIDENT AND LOCAL AGENT FOR HARDWICK-ETTER HAD MET INCOMING PLANE ON DEC. 28, DATE ENGINEER HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY EXPECTED, BUT WERE UNAWARE OF DEC. 30 ARRIVAL).

2. SOMALTEX URGENTLY REQUIRES PRESENCE OF HARDWICK-ETTER ENGINEER TO INSTALL US - PURCHASED GINNING EQUIPMENT. COTTON HARVESTING SEASON HAS BEGUN IN SOMALIA AND GINNING COULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY.

3. WE ALSO INFORMED THAT SOMALTEX IS PLANNING TO CONTRACT FOR ADDITIONAL GINNING EQUIPMENT TO COST APPROXIMATELY US \$250,000. AND ITS EXPERIENCE WITH HARDWICK-ETTER COULD BE IMPORTANT FACTOR IN PLACING ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT.

4. REQUEST DEPT. INFORM MR. KUNDAK OF HARDWICK-ETTER OF SHERMAN, TEXAS OF SOMALTEX'S IMMEDIATE NEED FOR ERECTION ENGINEER. HE

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SHOULD ALSO BE TOLD THAT SOMALTEX AUTHORITIES WILL MAKE ALL

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENGINEERS' ENTRANCE INTO SOMALIA AND HIS STAY
IN COUNTRY. EMBASSY WOULD RENDER ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE
TO ENGINEER DURING HIS STAY AND WOULD MEET ENGINEERING REP UHON
ARRIVAL IF HARDWICK-ETTER BELIEVES THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL.
KIRK

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